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Copy II of 12

29 October 1963

EC 2131  
TOP

MEMORANDUM FOR : Chairman, Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

SUBJECT : Status of 112A Camera System (C Triple Prime)

REFERENCE : Memo for DCI from C/COMOR, Dated 26 October 1963; Subject: "Review of Use of 112A Camera Configuration"

1. In connection with the reference and what I know to be the high level of Community interest in the utilization of the 112A camera system, you should be aware that effective today we are withdrawing the 112A camera from Barksdale Air Force Base where it has been deployed in support of the BRASS KNOB mission.

2. The reason for this withdrawal is that on the third 112A mission flown as a BRASS KNOB flight on 26 October (Mission 3761) the aircraft sustained inverter failure in the course of the flight which the ITEK people feel may have induced possible loadings on the camera electrical system in excess of those for which it was designed. Determination of any possible damage to the camera will have to be made by a factory inspection of the complete system at the ITEK plant in Massachusetts. Accordingly, it is necessary to down-load the system from the single aircraft presently equipped to fly it and to send it back to the East for inspection and maintenance. It is estimated that a period of perhaps as much as two weeks will be required to complete the cycle and to have the camera again ready to use.

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3. In anticipation of possible requirements for the utilization of the 112A system [ ] we are proceeding independently to assess the engineering implications of configuring [ ] IDEALIST aircraft on [ ] the 112A camera. I will keep you advised of the progress of this engineering study, but unless you see reasons why it would not be

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NRO review(s)  
completed.

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appropriate, I think we will proceed [REDACTED]  
for possible on-coming 112A missions.

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[REDACTED]  
JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.  
Acting Assistant Director  
(Special Activities)

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